



## Minutes

### Participants

John Bowers	Adam Silagyi
Brian Kopper	Erin Stiers
Kristian Rondeau	Ken Carnes
Dan Fieselmann	Kathy Handy
Bruce Shambaugh	Susan Schechter
Jason Watkins	Lisa Jackson
Robert Dahl	Melinda Sullivan
Vicki Smith	Richard Zink
Benny Graves	Joel Floyd

### Commodity Survey Documents and Pest Lists

In the last month, Lisa Jackson and Melinda Sullivan raised some questions and issues regarding the Commodity Survey documents. The NCC spent over half the time on this month's call discussing these documents, both the Reference and Survey Guidelines. While each document within the commodity survey has a purpose and specific use, the goal is to have the two documents compliment each other.

The NCC reaffirmed that the Commodity Reference document should be just that, a reference and resource for exotic pests in that particular commodity, i.e., a portfolio of exotic pests. The present format of the Reference document, with Primary and Secondary Pests, also was reaffirmed, and will remain so unless the NCC hears an argument otherwise. The Pests included in the Reference initially will be the purview of the author with oversight and review by CPHST. After the initial publication, pests may be added to the Reference and data sheets developed as situations warrant and scientific data become available. The NCC does foresee many instances where a pest would be removed from the Reference document, even if a particular pest becomes established. As a working draft, the information on a particular pest should always be available from one source.

The Commodity Survey Guidelines focus on all aspects of survey for the pests that are included in the Guidelines, and should be used to help plan and conduct surveys. More detailed information not directly related to conducting a survey will be found in the Reference document. Not all of the pests included in the Reference document will be included in the Survey Guidelines. Pests included in the initial Survey Guidelines will be determined by CPHST according to existing criteria, and will be a subset of pests in the corresponding Reference document. Pests in the Survey Guidelines will constitute the Commodity Pest List for that

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commodity, and be a part of the Priority Pest List and available for survey as a Priority Survey as defined in the CAPS Survey Guidelines published each year. Please note that it is not a requirement to survey for all pests on a Commodity Pest List; only those pests that make sense in a state based on risk, pathways, and/or other state considerations. A Pest List Working Group will be formed that will review all the pests on each Commodity Pest List each year, and recommend to the NCC any additions or deletions at the annual NCC meeting in late January. Comments from the CAPS community regarding the pest lists can be directed to this working group once formed. Changes will be included in the CAPS Survey Guidelines for the following year. More information on this working group will be forthcoming. A draft log will be initiated for each Commodity Survey Guidelines that will record changes from one year to the next, if any.

Several specific questions were asked that will be summarized here as the consensus of the NCC.

- The 2009 AHP Prioritized List and any additions to subsequent AHP lists should be used as the basis for developing initial pest lists. The 2009 AHP list is very comprehensive and a good place to start. This will apply for the commodity documents now in development: Corn, Potato, and Stone Fruits.
- Presently, PPQ program pests and pests with line item funding have not received data sheets in the Reference document. Comments were received from the CAPS community that expressed an interest in seeing detailed data sheets for these pests. The NCC agreed with the request to change the approach to these pests in the Commodity documents. Caveats will be inserted in the beginning of these data sheets that will direct the reader to the program pest's website for up-to-date and current information on these pests.
- Several pests are listed in the 2009 AHP list only at the genus level, noticeably mollusks. The NCC would like to see species listed in the commodity documents whenever possible. CPHST will follow up with the Mollusk Working Group to determine the status of identifying pests to the species level. This is an identified need within PPQ. If species cannot be listed (mollusks or otherwise), then pests will still be listed at the genus level until more information is available.
- The NCC concurred that a pest will remain in the commodity documents even though it may no longer appear on the AHP list for whatever reason. These pests need to remain for reference and as possible targets in bundled surveys. As mentioned above, pests generally will not be removed from the Reference document. Removal of a pest from the Survey Guidelines will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Pest List Working Group.
- Also as mentioned above, CPHST will have oversight and review of pests initially placed in the commodity documents by the author. Lisa and Melinda will convene an ad hoc group of

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experts to independently review the pest list before initial publication. The Pest List Working group will be responsible for changes in the pest lists in subsequent years.

## **Survey Guidelines - Appendix M**

Appendix M of the CAPS Survey Guidelines details the approved survey methodology for negative data for all Pest Detection-funded surveys. Currently, the Appendix M contains the approved methodology for an Exotic Woodboring & Bark Beetle survey. Similar information is being prepared for the commodity surveys. Two questions were considered by the NCC with regard of how to present the information and what pests to include.

- The NCC decided that, in addition to the pests in the commodity- and taxon-based surveys, Appendix M should include pests listed in the 2010 AHP Prioritized List that are not on the commodity- or taxon-based survey pest lists. Appendix M will then include all pests in the Priority Pest List as described in the 2010 CAPS Survey Guidelines.
- The NCC also discussed how to present Appendix M in the CAPS Survey Guidelines, whether by commodity, taxon, or otherwise. There are pros and cons to each. The NCC recommended that Appendix M be presented as an electronic version only, as opposed to a paper version. The NCC felt that most folks read the guidelines on the computer as opposed to printing them. If presented properly in the right format, then one should be able to search for a particular pest and/or sort and group pests based on selected criteria. This would prevent an unwieldy number of tables and allow updates to be processed smoothly as some pests appear in more than one commodity. Susan Schechter was asked to evaluate the proposal and put together a prototype for the NCC to review.

As a companion to Appendix M, identification and diagnostic tables are being developed with protocols, references, and similar or mistaken species for the pests in the Priority Pest List. While these will not be part of the 'official' CAPS Survey Guidelines, plans are to publish these tables and post them on the CAPS website when complete.

Information in Appendix M will be continually updated and put into effect as information becomes available for specific lures and appropriate traps. Appendix M will always supercede the Commodity Survey Guidelines, which will be updated to conform to Appendix M yearly or as time and workload permit.

## **CAPS Outreach**

Two aspects of outreach were presented to the NCC for consideration and discussion at the annual NCC meeting in January; outreach performance measures and a CAPS wiki site.

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Currently there is an effort within PPQ to develop a measurement strategy that can be used to capture various components, performance measures, and success indicators related to program outreach activities. Although outreach activities are inherently diverse, there may be some cross-cutting aspects that can be captured. Once this strategy has been identified and a product produced, it should be adaptable to the Pest Detection program. Todd Dutton at PDC is leading this effort. The proposal for our program will be to develop a tool for CAPS, introduce it at the CAPS Conference in December 2010, and make it available for whomever wishes to use it to capture the effectiveness of outreach activities in their state.

The second aspect that was briefly discussed was the development of a CAPS wiki site, tentatively named CAPSapedia. This could be a viable alternative to developing a CAPS 101 course, and would allow those new to the CAPS program, as well as the public, to learn about all aspects of the CAPS program in a non-linear fashion. Each state would be given the opportunity to develop their own page with associated links. This could be a real benefit to the CAPS program.

### **Integrated Plant Health Information System - IPHIS**

The Integrated Plant Health Information System (IPHIS) is the new name for PHIS. IPHIS is a consolidation of PHIS version 1, ISIS version 4, requirements defined for ISIS version 5, and also incorporates changes identified through the pilot of PHIS version 1. This will be a complete pest program management system, and replaces PHIS version 1 and ISIS version 4. After 2010, ISIS likely will not be supported. IPHIS will begin implementation in 2010 on a State-by-State approach supporting a multitude of PPQ pest programs. The CAPS program will use 2010 to learn how to use IPHIS, prepare complexes and templates, reports, and other items based on PPQ's experiences. IPHIS will be demonstrated for the CAPS community at the CAPS Conference in December 2010, and utilized by volunteer states in 2011. By 2012, it is envisioned that the CAPS program will use IPHIS exclusively.

### **Survey Guidelines - Appendix E**

Joel Floyd is working on a document describing the proper way to submit samples for identification and diagnostics. This will be posted on the CAPS website and will be linked to Appendix E, Taxonomic Support.

### **Annual NCC Meeting**

The annual meeting of the National CAPS Committee will be held January 27-28, 2010, at the PPQ National Detector Dog Training Center in Newnan, Georgia. The NCC should discuss with their constituency items and issues that can be placed on the agenda for the meeting.

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## **2010 CAPS Conference**

The 2010 Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey Conference for the entire CAPS community will be held November 30 - December 2, 2010 at a location yet to be determined. Several southern/southeastern cities are being considered, but the ultimate location will depend largely on an internal cost analysis. It is not too early to start developing the meeting. Please discuss with your NCC constituency or your representative on the NCC your ideas about the format and content of the meeting. In addition to content that you would like to see, what aspects of the meeting in Phoenix in 2008 that you would like to see continued, discarded, expanded, etc.

## **NCC Membership Rotation**

The NCC Bylaws established 3-year term limits and a rotation schedule for membership on the NCC. These documents are posted on the CAPS website. Several changes will be forthcoming for the NCC at the end of the year. Ken Carnes (SSC, NY) and Erin Stiers (PSS, KS) will be rotating off the NCC. Their respective constituency groups have selected Elizabeth Long (SSC, TN) and Marge Rayda (PSS, ND) to represent them on the NCC. The Southern Plant Board has decided to nominate Benny Graves (MS) to a second term. Additionally, Bob Dahl (SPRO, WI) will be unable to complete the final year of his term. The Central Plant Board has selected Julie Van Meter (SPRO, NE) to represent them for the remainder of Bob's term. The NCC would like to express our appreciation to those leaving the NCC for their dedication and engagement in the CAPS program, and wish them well in their future endeavors. Those new to the NCC will be invited to participate in next month's call.

**The next NCC call will be on Thursday, December 3, at 11:00 am eastern time.**

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